nation's holy mission.... and that's all there is to it.

So if Mr. Kurusu fails to get Washington to see it Tokyo's way, it will not be hard for General Tojo's Government to convince the Japanese people that responsibility for the failure is entirely American. At most, Mr. Kurusu is possibly empowered to promise that Japan won't ask anything more from Indo-China, won't invade Thailand, and won't make war on Russia..... just yet.

That's the sort of thing Mr. Togo means when he speaks of there being limits to Japan's conciliatory attitude.

But as a previous speaker in these talks suggested, it doesn't follow that there will be a fresh war in the Pacific the moment Tokyo admits, or forces, the failure of the negotiations at Washington. We shall be a step nearer war, but the Japanese will still have to make up their minds what they are going for.... whether they are going for the Burma Road in an attempt to wipe Chungking off the map, whether they are going for Vladivostok, or whether they are going for raw materials.

The Diet speeches leave the impression that Japan is suffering a far worse shortage of essential commodities than Tokyo has hitherto admitted. Indeed, for that matter there has been an attempt up to this week to pretend that the freezing orders have had virtually no effect whatever on Japanese economy or Japanese military strength. The argument used was that the areas under Japanese domination are as good as self-sufficient. Whether anybody believed it is another matter, but certainly the attempt was made to laugh off the effects of the stoppage of trade outside the yen bloc. Now, however, this stoppage of trade has become what General Tojo calls "a blockade.... a measure of little less hostile character than armed warfare."

I suppose its too much to expect General Tojo to see that with these words he admits the fantasy of Japanese aims. He admits the impossibility of ever creating a self-sufficient sphere in Asia. What Japan wants, as he himself says, is a return to the normal way of life... to normal trade with the Anglo-Saxon powers and the rest of the world. But if Japan wants normality, she mustn't herself be abnormal. That's as sound a rule for nations as it is for people. Even the Japanese don't let lunatics run around unrestrained ... at least not the more obvious lunatics.

Extra Copy

News Talk 14th November

From Free Dutch sources comes the story of Netherlands history as it is being written from day to day by the courage of the Dutch people. Compiled not only from information from the occupied territory, but by reading between the lines of the papers printed in Holland, the bulletins reveal the broad scope of quiet but stubborn resistance. There is nothing violent about chalking on the door of an Amsterdam cafe the words "Your disease is curable only through orange bitters", a Dutch drink of vivid orange hue. Yet so clearly did it indicate defiance of the conqueror, that the pro-Nazi police chief ordered the cafe closed.

TheDutch aremaking great use of orange, the national colour, to goad the occupying forces. They drink orangeade slowly and ostentatiously, or deliberately eat an orange (when one can be obtained) at a busy street corner. Crossing the street itself when the traffic light turns to orange is, of course, a now well established Dutch custom. And then, since red, white and blue has become the colour combination associated with freedom, Netherlanders this summer went in for red, white and blue flower beds. They realized that the Nazis would hardly go about uprooting the plants.

Another form of registering revolt is the scribbling of anti-Nazi slogans, and "V" for victory, on bank nots. So prevalent has this habit become, that the German controlled Netherlands bank recently announced that it wouldn't accept bank notes which had been marked.

So anxious has the populace been to shelter British airmen who may happen to be forced down in Holland, that not only have death sentences or life imprisonment been imposed for that offence, but the Nazis have even ruled that crowding round a plane which has come down is in itself a clear case of showing favour.

The German dictators are having trouble enforcing their anti-Jewish decrees. Recently children boycotted a school dance when they were told that their Jewish school mates could not attend. Today there is trouble at Leyden University, where professors are refusing duties because of a Nazi decree dismissing Jewish members of the faculty.

Other Jews are being rounded up, and taken to Germany to combat the labour shortage there, and according to information reaching London, three hundred young Dutch Jews have died in the Buchenwalde concentration camp.

In an effort to win Dutch support for the war against Russia, the pro-Nazi press is declaring that the Ukraine will provide land which Dutch farmers can work. From the Ukraine, the Dutch are being told, will come surplus grain which will fatten the pigs, and feed the hens without undermining the foundations od Dutch agriculture. At the same time chickens and pigs are being taken to Germany in large numbers. The animals and fowls are being taken because they depend on imported fodder which is not now obtainable.

Not long ago the R.A.F. scattered over Holland 75,000 small orange bags filled with tea and bearing messages of encouragement from Queen Wilhelmina. Those fortunate enough to pick them up were reminded that the tea was from the Netherlands East Indies. Now word comes that, much as tea is desired, most of the tea bombs were not exploded in the tea-pots but have been kept as souvenirs. As much as forty guilders a bag has been paid to obtain such souvenirs from persons who picked them up. Another part of the picture has been drawn by two Dutch officers who gave an Armistice Day broadcast from Nirom. These two officers, Captain Trebels and Captain Van Der Veen, told of their escape from a German prison camp after being captives of the Nazis for over six months. They were among the very many who, when military resistance ceased, refused to sign a statement that they would submit to German authority. They had seen every phase of the invasion; they had been witnesses of the barbarity of total warfare as the Nazis fight it. Captain Trebels saw the bombing of Rotterdam by Luftwaffe pilots who were, as he put it, "unacquainted with mercy."

News from Holland, and from the outside world, filtered into their prison camp in Germany. There they learned of the trials of their countrymen, and they listened daily to the boastings of their captors. But before these two officers escaped they boasting was a

little less in evidence. It was apparent that there was a great deal of uneasiness, and even a growing suspicion that not only had Germany not won the war, but that she might be losing it.

As prisoners naturally they saw little of life in Germany. But they couldn't fail to observe that conditions were bad, and getting worse. They couldn't help overhearing incautious remarks by their guards, and they shared in the standard joke about German sup. German housewives no longer worry when the soup is spilt. The stains only require drying and rubbing; there's no fat to leave a mark.

It was when Captain Van Der Veen was moved to a new camp that he got his first reliable news of what the Royal Air Force is doing nightly to German cities. Hamburg had been so heavily bombed that the prison camp was required for thousands of women and children who were being hurriedly evacuated.

After their escape, these two officers had this story confirmed. During a conversation in a bus a young woman told them that life in Cologne had become absolutely unbearable. Half the city, she said, had been razed to the ground, and more than halfthe people had left.

Captain Trebels and Captain Van Der Veen typify the stolid resistance of Holland to the invader. Those who can, escape to join Holland's army abroad, while the Dutch at home fight their own silent, stubborn battle.

It pains the Germans to find that Nazism is no more popular in Holland than it is in any other country. For some strange reason, perhaps because the bombing and the slaughter of invasion lasted only a few days instead of weeks or months, the Nazis rather expected to be treated as welcome guests. I can give you a small personal instance of this. I was in a neutral country at the time of the invasion of Holland, and the day after military operations ceased I was chatting with a group of Dutch friends. Up came a young German, who in happier times had been quite a close friend of at least two of these Dutchmen. He couldn't understand it when his former friends turned away. "But aren't you glad?" he asked. "Holland now is practically the same as Germany. We should be better friends."

Only a mind warped by Nazism could frame a remark like that. In its small way that incident illuminates the whole array of tyranny, brutality and conceit on which the Nazi edifice rests.